

Washington, DC – Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) welcomed students and teachers from the Delaware Valley Youth Earth Force Wednesday to discuss current environmental issues facing our nation, including renewable energy, climate change, and carbon reduction. The group of students from Radnor Middle School, Germantown Friends, and The Philadelphia School participated in an educational trip to Washington, DC to learn more about the significance of an active youth citizenship, particularly in the areas of energy and the environment.

“I am impressed by the dedication of this group of young people to change their world for the better,” said Congressman Sestak. “The great work of the Delaware Valley Youth Earth Force in fostering this dialogue between students and elected officials is a critical part of encouraging them to remain committed to the important issues we discussed in our meeting.”

Earth Force is a nonprofit education organization with offices in Erie, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Earth Force mission is to engage young people as active citizens who improve the environment and their communities. Delaware Valley Earth Force serves teachers and students in southeastern Pennsylvania. This year, more than 2,500 young people from over 50 schools are involved in Earth Force programs in the region.

“Our global environment is at a tipping point; we must reduce greenhouse emissions, stop global warming now, and end our nation’s dependence on foreign oil and our often careless disregard for precious natural resources,” said Congressman Sestak. “By implementing these technologies now, and by giving our children the education they need in science and math to develop the technologies of the future, we can protect, and begin to restore, our environment.”

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of “Deep Blue,” the Navy’s anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the “Global War on Terrorism.” He served as President Clinton’s Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

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